



### CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claim 1 (previously presented) An isolated RNAIII Activating Protein polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 13.

Claims 2-4 (cancelled)

Claim 5 (currently amended) A vaccine comprising the RNAIII Activating Protein polypeptide of claim 1 ~~or an antigenically effective portion thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.~~

Claim 6 (cancelled)